

I developed a threaded Visual Basic 2010 application that verifies if a Microsoft security issue (MS08-070: Vulnerabilities in Visual Basic 6.0 Runtime Extended Files (ActiveX Controls) could allow remote code execution) exists on a computer.

The application checks both registered ActiveX Controls and ActiveX Controls that exist in your file system (but not registered).

Microsoft states you need to contact the software developer (that installed these exploitable ActiveX Controls) and request an updated software package (that will install updated ActiveX Controls).

How do you know which software installed the ActiveX Controls?

Why can't the individual files just be updated?

My software provides an easy method to check your systems and fix the security issues without having to do all this research and major software upgrades.

1. This application shows you how to determine which ActiveX (OCX) files are registered on your computer, by reading the system registry.
2. Resolves a potential security issue that exists on many computers.
3. Demonstrates how to use threading to read registry entries and check files (via System.Management) at the same time.
4. Demonstrates how to allow threads to update a progress bar and DataGridView on the main form.
5. Demonstrates how to apply a style to reformat DataGridView entries (row color) as they are added, based upon data entry.
6. Demonstrates how to embed files into your compiled application and extract files as required.

I learned a lot while developing this application and always welcome comments to improve my code.